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in this issue:

- > State of Utah Launches jobs.utah.gov
- > SIC is Gone, NAICS is Here!
- > E-Wage Program Available
- > DWS to Increase Focus on Workforce Development
- > Health Insurance Tax Credit for Affected UI Claimants
- > Unemployment Rates for US, Utah, and Eastern Region

State of Utah

Department of Workforce Services



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New Department of Workforce Services Office in Castle Dale

In November, the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) moved into a new office located at 550 West Highway 29 in Castle Dale.

"We are so pleased with the new facility," said Delena Fish, office manager. "We have a nice big conference room which we want to make available to the community, and there is plenty of space to accommodate our workers and customers." The facility includes two conference rooms, private interview rooms, and several self-help computers for those pursuing employment opportunities.



The new Castledale Employment Center

A formal open house is planned for the near future. The phone number for the new office is 435-381-6100, fax number is 435-381-6109.

Moab Update: Garden Project Employs Many Youth

The mission of the **Youth Garden Project** (YGP), founded in 1996, is to provide educational and mentoring programs to Grand County youth, particularly those at high risk of adjudication or dropout. YGP fulfills this mission and serves the broader community through their gardening and community service projects.

The produce from the garden—tomatoes, green peppers, and various other vegetables—are distributed through the local food banks and the farmer's market. The garden is located next to Grand County High School. During the school year there are 45-65 students involved in the classes and gardening duties.

The Youth Garden employs 10 part-time high school students, two full-time and four part-time teachers, and one director. Job openings for the Youth Garden are listed with DWS' Moab Office, and via Americorps' (a federal jobs and education program) Web site. Cari Militano, garden director, estimates that about 50 percent of their workers are recruited from DWS

and the other 50 percent are recruited over the Internet.

YGP offers the following for Moab-area youth:

- * The elementary school's Garden Classroom
- * The Plugging-In Program for adjudicated youth
- * The Kids Summer Day Camp for six through eleven year-olds
- * Credited classes offered to middle and high school students

One of the community service projects the youth are involved in is providing yard clean-up for the elderly or disabled citizens of Grand County. This service is provided free of charge.

Garden goals for 2003 include building an addition to the current facility. The addition will consist of bathrooms for students and a kitchen facility where participants can learn cooking skills and prepare food that is grown on site.

State of Utah Launches jobs.utah.gov

After more than three years in production, jobs.utah.gov, the state of Utah's cutting-edge, online, and self-directed job matching system was unveiled. Perhaps the most sophisticated public system of its kind on the World Wide Web, it allows job seekers and employers to instantly find each other. Your next "employee of the month" could be just clicks away!



Governor Mike Leavitt activated jobs.utah.gov at a ceremony at United Parcel Service in West Valley City on 4 November 2002, day 274 of the Governor's 1000-Day Plan. jobs.utah.gov is an integral tool for accomplishing a fundamental tenet of the 1000-Day Plan, the availability of quality jobs statewide, because it is a platform for bringing together qualified job seekers and hiring employers for their mutual benefit and the economic prosperity of the state. Governor Leavitt commented that the launch of jobs.utah.gov is a significant step toward realizing his vision that Utah state government "will enable people to conduct business with government online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year." jobs.utah.gov was developed and is maintained by the Department of Workforce Services, "Utah's Job Connection."

Employers looking to hire can register on jobs.utah.gov in just minutes, enter job orders (or descriptions of the positions they wish to fill, complete with the necessary qualifications), and begin searching the database of résumés immediately. Similarly, job seekers can register upon logging on, enter their résumés, and begin searching for a job. And, both can save their progress so that when they login later, they can start where they last left off. This online recruitment system is available at no fee.

Plus, all users have access to the online helpdesk to handle any inquiries or problems that may arise. Finding a job or filling one just got a lot easier in Utah. jobs.utah.gov is certain to help countless job seekers to provide for themselves and their families, as well as Utah businesses to grow and increase their bottom lines.

SIC is Gone, NAICS is Here!

News from the Workforce Information Division

What's the Big Deal?

Changing to the new coding system for industries (the North American Industry Classification System, or NAICS) is a complete break from the old system (Standard Industrial Classification, or SIC). Businesses are being reclassified, and tax breaks or favors extended to specific industries through legislative initiatives will have to be redefined. Data users will find that the industrial profiling of our economy will be so different that our reservoir of historical data will become obsolete because the two systems will be incompatible. While total employment numbers will remain compatible, industrial sectors are reorganized and many are brand new under NAICS. The bottom line: Any business or government agency that uses the old SIC system will have to change.

Why change?

The old SIC system is outdated. When it was created in the 1930's, the economy was built on a foundation of Manufacturing, with other sectors, such as Services, playing a supporting role. The economy has changed drastically since then. NAICS makes substantial structural improvements over SIC, including the addition of over 350 new industries that didn't exist under SIC or in the old economy. A few examples are: cable networks, satellite communications, warehouse clubs, convenience stores, HMO medical centers, hazardous waste collection, temporary help supply, and diet and weight reducing centers.

What does NAICS Look Like?

NAICS uses a six-digit coding system to identify particular industries. The first two digits designate the industry sector, the third designates the sub-sector, the fourth designates the industry group, the fifth the NAICS industry, and the sixth designates the national industry.

Learn more about NAICS and identify your individual industry by visiting the NAICS Web sub-page on the DWS Website: <http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/Naics/dwsdefault.asp>. For more information contact Dana Knold: 801 526-9469, dknold@utah.gov, or Kris Beckstead: 801 526-9475.

E-Wage Program Available

"**E-Wage** may reduce filing time by at least 50 percent, automates accurate calculations, and ensures rapid posting of quarterly wage reports. Savings will be significant for Utah employers who continue to file quarterly wage reports on paper, particularly those who are mid to large size employers," says Bill Starks, Chief of Contributions.

The **free** software, available January 1, 2003 for single user filing, will allow users to prepare their quarterly wage list by only inputting their employees' names and social security numbers once, and then entering only their wages for subsequent quarters. It maintains the wage totals in a database for calculating excess wage figures each quarter. In addition, **E-Wage** will allow users to make address changes, close and reopen accounts, change ownership, notification of releasing employees, etc. Once you've completed your wage list, **E-Wage** prepares your quarterly Employer's Contribution Report and gives you the option of submitting your reports via the Internet or on diskette. A Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) and installation of the free program, Macromedia FLASH Player, will be required to use this software. Current *JsWage* users will be able to convert existing wage files to the **E-Wage** program. **E-Wage** will also allow importing of wage information from many payroll software sources. Please call 801-526-9494 for details on this option.

E-Wage will be available free on CD ROM or may be downloaded from our Web site at: jobs.utah.gov/ui/ewage/ewage_download.asp. DWS will continue to accept wage data prepared with *JsWage* through the end of 2003.

DWS to Increase Focus on Workforce Development

Raylene Ireland, Executive Director of the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) has named Darin Brush as the Deputy Director of Workforce Development and Information.



Darin Brush

"Workforce Development is Economic Development, and that's long been part of the mission of our department," said Ireland. "We are now at the stage of evolution of this department to focus on economic development issues as a partner with private sector employers, our partners in education, and our state Department of Community and Economic Development. Mr. Brush has an exceptional background that has prepared him to take on this responsibility."

Mr. Brush has been the Director of Communications and Customer Service for the Department, and the Director of the State Council on Workforce Services, which is comprised of a majority of private sector employers.

"The Governor's 1000-day plan demonstrates a commitment to the economic vitality of our state. I'm honored at this opportunity to move workforce development into the economic development realm," said Mr. Brush. "My immediate priorities are to build on our successful Labor Market Information Division to deliver consumer driven workforce information intelligence to stakeholders and decision makers, while ensuring that we provide the highest quality services to Utah employers."

Health Insurance Tax Credit for Trade Affected Unemployment Insurance Claimants

For the first time ever, claimants who are covered under an approved petition for federal Trade Adjustment Assistance will be eligible for a tax credit off their health insurance premiums paid during the 2002 tax year. The Trade Act provides special benefits to individuals who become unemployed due to foreign competition. Anyone who believes job losses are trade affected may submit a petition to the

Department of Trade Adjustment Assistance for approval. Additional information on this program can be obtained by going to the Website: www.doleta.gov/tradeact or by contacting the DWS' Unemployment Insurance Claims Center: Salt Lake/South Davis (801) 526-4400; Weber/North Davis (801) 612-0877; Provo (801) 375-4067; other locations or out-of-state (888) 848-0688.

Utah Department of Workforce Services

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Permit #4621**January 2003****Contact Numbers*****Unemployment Rates Remain High in US, Utah and Eastern Region***

October's unemployment rate in Utah dipped slightly to 5.1 percent from the 5.3 percent reported in September. This continues a trend of unemployment rates ranging between 5 percent and 6 percent during 2002. Approximately 57,538 Utahans were unemployed in October, a 7.3 percent increase from the 53,618 in October of 2001.

County	Oct 2001	Oct 2002
Daggett	4.8%	3.7%
Duchesne	6.7%	7.2%
Uintah	4.8%	5.8%
Carbon	4.8%	5.6%
Emery	9.5%	9.1%
Grand	7.0%	6.3%
San Juan	9.0%	7.6%
Utah	4.8%	5.1%
United States	5.4%	5.7%

In the Eastern Region (see chart at left), unemployment rates from 12 months ago have increased considerably in the Uintah Basin. The uncertainty of oil prices continues to impact Duchesne and Uintah counties as the energy industry remains cautious about further oil and gas exploration.

Blanding	(435) 678-1400
Castle Dale	(435) 381-6100
Moab	(435) 719-2600
Monticello	(435) 587-2016
Price	(435) 636-2300
Roosevelt	(435) 722-6500
Vernal	(435) 781-4100

Conversely, unemployment rates have decreased in the southeast counties, with the exception of Carbon County. Of special note is San Juan County, where the unemployment rate dropped nearly 1.5 percent from a year ago. Some construction projects and the opening of a new retail outlet have boosted the county's employment opportunities.